

ABSTRACT

A discrete paper feeder includes a speed reduction mechanism for transmitting rotation of a driving motor to a separation roller, a disc member having grooves, a lever member on a grooved side of the disc member, and a slide pin projected from the lever member and slidable
5 along the grooves upon disc member rotation. The speed reduction mechanism includes a sun gear, an internally-toothed gear, and planetary gears. The disc member is disposed on one end of the separation roller rotation shaft and secured to a geared section having
10 the internally-toothed gear. The lever member is radially slideable relative to the disc member. A rotation stopping member regulates rotation of the lever member. This structure minimizes peripheral speed differences to prevent image distortion and elongation. Even when peripheral speed difference is minimized, a predetermined
15 interval is provided between sequentially transferred manuscript sheets.